

## Bachelor of Commerce

### The Independent Institute of Education (The IIE)

The IIE Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) degree provides graduates with a broad-based business qualification that is invaluable in forging a career within the world of business. The IIE BCom degree offers students a quality learning experience in the contemporary, dynamic and interesting field of Business with the opportunity to choose a core discipline in Strategic Management and Marketing Management. This Bachelor's degree is designed to prepare students for the increasingly complex demands that they will face in the professional business environment. Graduates will enter the business world with solid theoretical knowledge; supported by strong problem solving, critical thinking, decision-making and strategic skills. This degree gives students a highly marketable balance of knowledge, practical application and skills.

#### What is this Degree's accreditation status?

The IIE Bachelor of Commerce degree is accredited by the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and is registered by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) as a minimum 360-credit qualification on level 7 (SAQA ID: 84706).

#### Who is this Bachelor's degree aimed at?

This IIE BCom degree is aimed at students who are keen to study a broad-based commerce degree along with the opportunity to choose one of the following core disciplines: Strategic Management and Marketing Management. This choice is made after having received a solid foundation in the theoretical knowledge associated with key management and business disciplines in the first year.

#### What entry requirements will I need to study this Bachelor's degree?

To be registered you must have satisfied the admission requirements as set out below:

#### Minimum Admission Requirements:

Minimum Admission Requirements	English	Maths/HG	Math Lit/SG	Notes
NSC: Bachelor pass with	50%	40% or	60%	
NC(V): Bachelor pass with	50%	50% or	60%	
SC: Endorsement with	50%	40% or	60%	
SC(a): Bachelor pass with	50%	40% or	60%	
<b>International</b>	An USAf Exemption Certificate to degree studies is required and meeting the relevant Maths and English requirements.			
	A cognate Higher Certificate or cognate 240 credit Diploma OR an Advanced Certificate or 360 credit Diploma may satisfy the minimum admission requirements to degree studies.			If discipline not cognate at least 20% of credits must be academic literacy or numeracy related.

	NSC	Notes
English	40-49%	if achieved 50% min in final Grade 11 results - applicable to contact students
Mathematics	30-39%	register for tutorial sessions for numeracy modules - applicable only to contact students.
Mathematical Literacy	50-59%	register for tutorial sessions for numeracy modules - applicable only to contact students.
<b>Senate Discretionary Admissions:</b>		
<b>Mature Age Exemption</b>	Candidates having attained the age of 23 before or during the first year of registration with a Senior Certificate with a minimum of 40% in at least four higher or standard grade subjects, at least three of which shall have been passed simultaneously and one of which shall be a recognised higher grade subject; OR Candidates must have attained the age of 45 before or during the first year of registration.  An USAf exemption Certificate is required.	
<b>Senate Discretionary Mature Age Admission for students with a Senior Certificate with endorsement</b>	Candidates 23 years and older at point of registration, with an endorsed Senior Certificate can be accepted on The IIE BCom on a senate discretionary mature age admission if they do not meet the additional admission requirements. Their academic progress will be tracked and reported at Senate. An USAf Exemption Certificate is not required.	
<b>Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)</b>	Where candidates do not satisfy the formal admission requirements for this qualification, The IIE may consider an admission application in terms of the Credit Accumulation and Transfer, Recognition of Prior Learning and Qualification Completion Policy (IIE010).	
<b>USAf approved cognate foundation programme</b>	Candidates who have completed an USAf approved cognate foundation programme from a registered and accredited provider may be admitted. The additional Maths/Math Lit and English criteria fall away. An USAf Exemption Certificate is required - the Office of the Registrar will facilitate, on behalf of the student, an application for degree admission to USAf, once the student has provided proof of payment to USAf.	
<b>Transfer students</b>	Candidates who have successfully completed at least 120 credits on the first year of a cognate degree may be admitted. However, if a student completed less than 120 credits, the admission criteria on the NSC or equivalent apply.	
<b>OQSF qualifications</b>	Candidates with an OQSF Level 5 cognate qualification may be admitted, provided the OQSF qualification has at least 120 credits at NQF Level 5. An USAf Exemption Certificate is required - the Office of the Registrar will facilitate, on behalf of the student, an application for degree admission to USAf, once the student has provided proof of payment to USAf.	
<b>General Education Development (GED) - An USA qualification developed by the American Council on Education (ACE)</b>	Candidates with a GED qualification may be admitted if they have an USAf Foreign Conditional Exemption Certificate as well as NBT: AQL results and have obtained a score of at least 51 for Academic Literacy (AL) and a score of at least 40 for Quantitative Literacy (QL).	

If you have not met these minimum entry requirements but have an NSC with higher certificate or diploma entry into higher education, you may wish to consider registering for The IIE Higher Certificate in Business Principles and Practice (HBP122) first as a pathway to this degree. Further information on this qualification is available from our student advisor team.

#### **\*Additional Tutorial Sessions**

Students who achieve either a Maths Literacy mark of 50% to 59%, or a Maths mark of 30% to 39% may be admitted for contact study on this programme in 2021 on condition they register for the compulsory additional tutorials. These tutorial sessions are presented in both semesters in the first year of study.

For each of the following numeracy dependent modules; Accounting 1A (ACBP5121) and Economics 1A (PMIC5111) students will need to:

- Attend a one-hour tutorial once a week from academic week 2 (total of 11 tutorials)
- Undertake a baseline assessment of their discipline specific numeracy skills in the first tutorial so that the tutorials can be structured appropriately to support the group learning needs.
- Complete an additional formative assessment for that module in the form of a test that must be completed in the 11th tutorial.

Students will be billed for these additional tutorial sessions at an additional cost.

Please note, requirements for entrance to this qualification are correct at the time of printing, however, these may change. At the time of registration, please check that the entry requirements have not changed.

### **What is The Teaching and Learning Strategy of IIE MSA, and how will it help prepare me for the 21st century working world?**

At IIE MSA campus we are proud of and passionate about our shift away from the 'traditional lecturing' methodology to our blended-learning strategy.

This blended-learning strategy extends learning beyond the confines of the classroom and creates opportunities for our students to work collaboratively, with peers and their educators, to construct their understanding of concepts. Student engagement is supported by the use of a learning management system (LMS) and the online learning materials that have been developed to underpin our teaching strategy.

Due to this approach, you will be expected to spend time conducting your own research, study for assessments and work on assignments. To gain the most from the blended learning experience, IIE MSA's Wireless classrooms and campuses, students are required to BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology) such as mobile devices, netbooks, laptops or tablets, etc. so as to develop the necessary academic and digital literacies over the three years of this degree.

This student-focused approach compels our students to be accountable for their learning while developing the critical skills they will need to thrive in the rapidly changing 21st century work environment.

As such, academic life for our students is dynamic, challenging and relevant.

### **How is this Bachelor's degree structured at IIE MSA?**

The IIE Bcom degree is a three-year degree. The academic year runs from February to November. The modules are delivered on a full-time basis with lectures and tutorials being scheduled during the day from Monday to Friday.

Please note that in line with academic practice, The IIE's curriculum is reviewed annually thus changes may occur in module structure and sequence in order to ensure that the qualification remains relevant. The exit level outcomes of the programme do not change. Registered students receive an updated programme curriculum on an annual basis.

## Bachelor of Commerce: Core discipline Table

1ST YEAR	NQF LEVEL	CREDIT VALUE	SEMESTER	MARKETING MANAGEMENT CORE DISCIPLINE	STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT CORE DISCIPLINE
ACBP5121 Accounting 1A	5	15	1	Y	Y
APCT5121 Applied Communication Techniques	5	15	1	Y	Y
BMNG5121 Business Management 1A	5	15	1	Y	Y
PMIC5111 Economics 1A	5	15	1	Y	Y
ACBP5122 Accounting 1B	5	15	2	Y	Y
BMNG5122 Business Management 1B	5	15	2	Y	Y
PMAC5112 Economics 1B	5	15	2	Y	Y
MAKT5112 Introduction to Marketing Theory and Practice	5	15	2	Y	Y

**ACBP5121 is a pre-requisite for ACBP5122**

**PMIC5111 is a co-requisite for PMAC5112**

2ND YEAR	NQF LEVEL	CREDIT VALUE	SEMESTER	MARKETING MANAGEMENT CORE DISCIPLINE	STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT CORE DISCIPLINE
BMNG6221 Business Management 2A	6	15	1	Y	Y
FINM6221 Financial Management 2A	6	15	1	Y	Y
INRL6221 Industrial Relations	6	15	1		Y
MAKT6211 Marketing 2A	6	15	1	Y	
QUAT6221 Quantitative Techniques	6	15	1	Y	Y
BUSL6222 Business Law	6	15	2	Y	Y
BMNG6222 Business Management 2B	6	15	2	Y	Y
DGMT6212 Digital Marketing	6	15	2	Y	
MAKT6212 Marketing 2B	6	15	2	Y	
PRMN6212 Project Management	6	15	2		Y
RETM6222 Retail Management	6	15	2		Y

3RD YEAR	NQF LEVEL	CREDIT VALUE	SEMESTER	MARKETING MANAGEMENT CORE DISCIPLINE	STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT CORE DISCIPLINE
BMNG7321 Business Management 3A	7	15	1	Y	Y
INRS7321 Introduction to Research	7	15	1	Y	Y
MAKT7311 Marketing 3A	7	15	1	Y	
SPCM7321 Supply Chain Management	7	15	1		Y
XBCM7329 Work Integrated Learning	7	15	1	Y	Y
BMNG7322 Business Management 3B	7	15	2	Y	Y
REPR7312 Research Practice	7	15	2	Y	Y
INKM7322 Information and Knowledge Management	7	15	2	Y	Y
MAKT7312 Marketing 3B	7	15	2	Y	
ENRM7322 Enterprise Risk Management	7	15	2		Y

**BMNG6222 is a co-requisite for BMNG7321**

**BMNG7321 is a co-requisite for BMNG7322**

**INRS7311 is a co-requisite for REPR7312**

**MAKT6212 is a pre-requisite for MAKT7311**

**Please note that the organisation of modules and the semester in which they are offered may change.**

### **What about timetables?**

The IIE full-time programmes are aimed at students wishing to dedicate themselves to full-time face-to-face studies for the duration of their qualification. This means that students are expected to be available throughout the day for class in the academic year depending on how the timetable is structured. Students may also be required to write assessments or submit coursework or assignments outside of normal class-time.

Students must understand that timetables remain subject to change throughout the year. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that timetable structures will remain the same during each year of your studies with us. In addition, where students are repeating modules, these modules may be offered in the evenings or on weekends. Students are required to attend classes in order to remain up to date with the academic programme. Students who would like to pursue part-time employment opportunities outside of the academic programme must prioritise their studies and avoid committing to work schedules until after they have received their timetables and academic calendar from the institution.

### **What must I pass in order to graduate with this Bachelor's degree?**

In order to be awarded this qualification, you must have achieved a minimum final year mark of fifty percent (50%) for each module of the programme; and have met all the Work Integrated Learning requirements, where applicable.

### **How long do I have to complete this qualification?**

Students have a maximum of 6 years to complete this qualification.

### **With what qualification will I graduate?**

You will graduate with The IIE Bachelor of Commerce degree.

### **Career opportunities: what career areas can I pursue once I have completed this Bachelor's degree?**

This degree will open up an attractive range of career options; this degree is a perfect stepping stone to a diverse and exciting range of business-related career opportunities, depending on which core discipline you choose.

#### Marketing Management core discipline

- General Management
- Market Research
- Marketing Management
- Consulting

#### Strategic Management core discipline

- General Management
- Strategic Management
- Entrepreneurship
- Consulting

### **What are the future study opportunities once I have completed The IIE Bachelor of Commerce degree?**

The IIE Bachelor of Commerce is accredited by the South African Council on Higher Education and registered by the South African National Qualifications Framework (NQF) at level 7 – the same level as other equivalent undergraduate degrees offered at other South African higher education institutions. As a result, the opportunity to apply for a postgraduate certificate/diploma or Honours degree with The IIE or any other South African higher education institution does exist. However, different institutions sometimes have different requirements for admission to the programmes they offer. These requirements also change from time to time within institutions. For this reason, acceptance into various programmes are based on meeting all the institution-specific entrance requirements, the availability of space, as well as the applicants' academic results

Graduates of the IIE Bachelor of Commerce degree can deepen their insight and expertise in the management discipline by enrolling for the IIE Bachelor of Business Science Honours in Management. Not only will this qualification develop a higher level of business acumen in students, it will also develop their ability to apply solution-focused, systemic research geared towards building businesses in the South African and African economy, as well as the ability to function in an international

context. Other postgraduate qualifications that could also be considered are the IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Business Leadership and IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Corporate Governance.

IIE Graduates can also consider registering for The IIE's Postgraduate Certificate in Education in Senior Phase (SP) and Further Education and Training (FET) which is a professional teaching programme that seeks to 'cap' a suitable undergraduate degree. The purpose of this programme is to qualify students to follow a career in teaching in the Senior Phase (Grades 7-9) and Further Education and Training band (Grades 10-12).

**Call the IIE MSA campus to discuss your career options with one of our Student Advisors.  
Tel: +27 11 950 4009 or email [enquiries@iiemsaco.za](mailto:enquiries@iiemsaco.za)**

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*Disclaimer: Please note that this fact sheet is accurate at the time of publication. The Independent Institute of Education (The IIE) reserves the right to alter any of the content prior to commencement of registration due to changes in regulation, policy, market requirements or any other valid reason.*



### **British Accreditation Council**

The IIE is not only accredited in South Africa but its dedication to providing quality education also led to it being accredited by the British Accreditation Council (BAC) in 2014. The British Accreditation Council is an independent authority in the United Kingdom that accredits private providers globally, including Greece, Switzerland, Singapore, India, Mauritius and the United Arab Emirates. In 2017 The IIE had its accreditation status confirmed by the BAC as an Independent Higher Education Institution confirming our confidence in the international comparability of our standards.

“South African students need to know, when they select a private higher education institution, that the standards offered are equivalent to those of a public University. Our students get this from our extensive local accreditation and registration. The students also benefit from knowing that we meet international standards too. The IIE is accredited as an Independent Higher Education Institution by the British Accreditation Council. Locally and internationally we have demonstrated the quality of what we offer,” said Dr Coughlan, Director, The Independent Institute of Education. IIE MSA students can be confident that their IIE learning experience meets international best practice standards.”